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HEEELLLLP
Will no one think of the turtles? metroNEWS

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TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

FOR SALE: OUR HERITAGE

'One of the most significant buildings left in Toronto,' the Dominion Public Building is destined to be swallowed up by ... sigh ... more condos

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SOLIDARITY
(well, sorta ... it's complicated)

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7 Nights
All Inclusive
1st pax $909
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Acoya Hotel Suites and Villas ★★★★
Curaçao, Curaçao
Mar 29, 2017
7 Nights
European Plan
no meals
1st pax $913
taxes included (ACV)

Coconut Court Beach Hotel ★★★
Bridgetown, Barbados
Apr 18, 2017
7 Nights
European Plan
no meals
1st pax $1197
taxes included (ACV)

Honduras

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La Ceiba, Honduras
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taxes included (SWG)

Telamar Resort ★★★★
Tela, Honduras
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$1035
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Fantasy Island Beach Resort ★★★
Roatan, Honduras
Mar 20, 2017
7 Nights
All Inclusive
$1399
taxes included (ATH)

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metro NEWS
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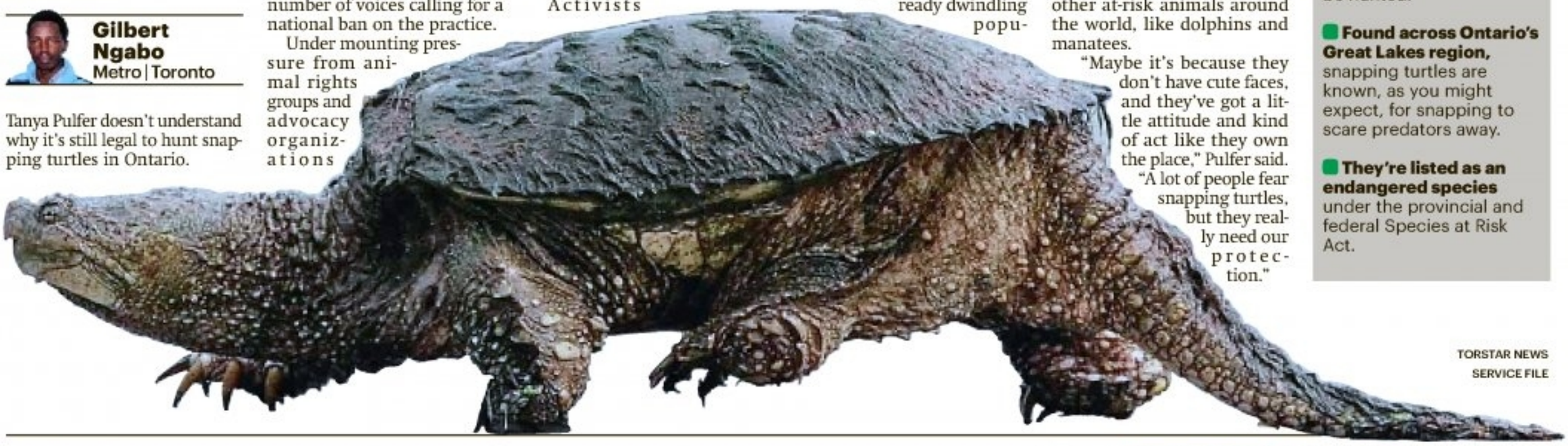
Chelsea Manning to be freed in May **World**

This turtle may be gone in a snap

CONSERVATION

Advocates ask for hunting ban to reverse decline

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto



Tanya Pulfer doesn't understand why it's still legal to hunt snapping turtles in Ontario.

"They are species at risk, for God's sake," said the Toronto ecologist and conservation science manager at Ontario Nature. "Every study shows they are in sharp decline, so why are we still allowed to hunt them?"

Pulfer is one of a growing number of voices calling for a national ban on the practice.

Under mounting pressure from animal rights groups and advocacy organizations like the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club, the provincial Ministry of Natural Resources is looking at limiting the hunt, which allows anyone with an Ontario fishing license to bag a maximum of two turtles a day in the summer months.

Activists like Pulfer think the proposals don't go far enough.

"That just flies in the face of conservation efforts. It's directly against their own policy to preserve nature and its species," she said.

The biggest threats to the already dwindling population are habitat loss and getting hit by cars.

Continuing to allow hunting is like "adding weight onto the broken camel's back already," said Pulfer.

Snapping turtles deserve the same kind of support as other at-risk animals around the world, like dolphins and manatees.

"Maybe it's because they don't have cute faces, and they've got a little attitude and kind of act like they own the place," Pulfer said. "A lot of people fear snapping turtles, but they really need our protection."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

DID YOU KNOW?

- **Only two provinces** — Ontario and Saskatchewan — still allow snapping turtles to be hunted.
- **Found across Ontario's Great Lakes region,** snapping turtles are known, as you might expect, for snapping to scare predators away.
- **They're listed as an endangered species** under the provincial and federal Species at Risk Act.

WILDLIFE

Rescue centre needs nuts for orphan squirrels

Toronto Wildlife Centre is collecting nuts for orphan squirrels. CONTRIBUTED

May Warren
Metro | Toronto

Got Nuts? Toronto Wildlife Centre wants them to sustain orphaned squirrels.

The animal rescue organization put out an urgent call on social media, Tuesday, for "whole, unsalted walnuts, pecans and almonds" to feed 22 squirrels in their care.

Executive director Nathalie Karvonen said it's not that they have more squirrels at the moment, it's simply because nuts are expensive.

As for the request for no salt?

"It's just very dehydrating and having an excess amount of salt is just not good for them, and it's not something they would normally encounter in the wild either," she said.

"Just like it's bad for people."

The organization admits only sick, injured or orphaned wildlife, she said.

"Most of the squirrels we have in care now are grey squirrels who came in as late orphans."

Karvonen said adding a few are young adults who were brought in with mange, a treatable skin condition, or after being hit by cars.

Karvonen said the squirrels should be released once weather warms up.

TORONTO ZOO UNSOLD CHRISTMAS TREES SPRUCE UP ANIMALS' HABITATS Ngozi checks out a Christmas tree at the Toronto Zoo. Christmas trees that don't get sold are donated to the zoo so they can be used as enrichment for animals including gorillas, polar bears and lemurs. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Airbnb is 'here to stay'

RENTALS

Mississauga looks at regulation as popularity rises

May Warren
Metro | Toronto

Facing an explosion of Airbnb listings, Mississauga is looking at options for regulating the short-term rental market.

There was a whopping 227 per cent increase in listings between May 2015 and May 2016 alone, according to a new report by city staff.

Travellers seeking accommodation in the 905 can currently browse 525 active listings on Airbnb.

"We know that it's probably here to stay," Coun. Karen Ras said of the short-term rentals trend.

But residents have come to her with problems, Ras said. One house, for example, was rented out for parties and plagued with complaints about garbage, noise and septic tank issues.

She's also concerned short-term rentals could take a bite out of affordable housing.

As a result, Ras supports some form of regulation, like allowing people to rent out space in their own homes but stopping short of permitting the rental of entire properties.

Councillors have tasked city staff with doing public consultations before coming back with recommended regulations this fall.

Airbnb has repeatedly told Metro that it supports "creating fair, sensible rules for home sharing" regulation.

Mississauga, meanwhile, "must adapt" to the shared economy and find solutions "that balance the popular demands of consumers who use these services, while safeguarding and standing up for local taxpayers," Mayor Bonnie Crombie said in an emailed statement.

The Crombie family owns one property rented on Airbnb, the statement added, but it's outside of Mississauga. Her office did not response to further questions about its location.

According to statistics in a new report for councillors:

$65 The average price per night

7.5 Number of days for an average length of stay

$4,200 The annual income made by an average host off of bookings

Some 20 student-designed and -themed bike stands are now ready for use along Bloor Street W. between Dufferin and Lansdowne. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CYCLING

Students-designed racks promote bike culture

Bike racks in Bloordale now have a funky new look sporting designs such as a space ship, the peace sign, flowers and leaves.

Over the past week, 20 one-of-a-kind bike stands were unveiled on Bloor Street West, between Dufferin Street and Lansdowne Avenue by the Bloordale BIA.

The bike stands were designed by students from Bloor Collegiate Institute and built by Jacqueline Fernandez, a Grade 12 student of Contact Alternative School.

On Monday, Fernandez held a bike rack in place on Bloor St. W. by Dufferin Station, as Phil Sarazen scooped cement to fill the hole to secure it.

Students came up with the designs after researching the history of Bloordale, said Liza Lukashevsky, Bloordale BIA chair.

For instance one of the students designed a bike rack with an elephant. She came up with the design after seeing a photograph of a parade of elephants down Brock Avenue, Lukashevsky said. Where the Dufferin Mall stands today, once stood a circus.

Sarazen, the supervisor of the project said he got the idea to design these bike racks when he saw a "bunch" of them painted in beautiful colors at various places in Toronto."I thought this is wonderful," he said.

The appeal behind these bike racks, apart from aesthetics, is that they make people appreciate the city and promote cycling, Fernandez said."It's more than a piece of metal," Sarazen said. "It incorporates community involvement both in schools and people involved."

These bike racks also promote cycling in the community, Fernandez said.

Right now, the city has 60 such bike racks from a few in the Kensington Market area to Parkdale, the ROM and Chinatown. The bike stands are made out of hot rolled plate and flat bar steel.

"This project is part of Bloordale BIA's commitment to promoting bike culture," Lukashevsky said in a news release. "We are pleased to have provided funding and would like to thank everyone who made this project a reality."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto DIGEST

Fare gates facing issues
The TTC is in the midst of replacing all its subway turnstiles with the new automatic fare gates which are crucial to its plans to modernize the transit system. But customers have complained about problems with the devices. According to TTC spokesperson Heather Brown, there are now 376 fare gates at 41 of the agency's subway stations, and about 12 per cent of them don't work at any given time.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tory's child care subsidy 'bad public policy'
Toronto Mayor John Tory's plan to add 300 child care subsidies by cutting a grant that helps lower costs for parents who use daycares in schools is being called "cynical" and "bad public policy."

"What is very sad about the mayor's proposal is that he intends to fund fee subsidies for low-income families by increasing fees for parents who are already stretched to pay the full fees," said Coun. Janet Davis.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

'Lack of support' cause of student violence spike
Ontario's elementary teachers say the "critical lack of support" for children with serious behavioural issues has led to a rise in violent outbursts that puts students and teachers at risk. The problem is regularly the number one issue on the table when union representatives across the province meet and something the federation hears about "every single day," said Sam Hammond, president of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

City sees 427 flu cases in first week of January
More flu flew into the city along with the New Year. Confirmed cases of influenza hit 427 in the fist seven days of January, according to new data from Toronto Public Health. That's almost double the 221 reported in the final week of 2016. Since most people never get a lab test, the real numbers are likely much greater. More than 30 hospitals and long-term care homes are dealing with outbreaks of influenza. Zealous handwashing, getting the flu shot and staying home if you're sick can help stop the spread, officials say.
GENNA BUCK/METRO

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Photos from the past inspire actions today

METRO FOCUS ON ACTIVISM!

Exhibit draws from civil rights movement

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

A new exhibition at Ryerson Image Centre is turning the clock back in a bid to inspire activism in a new generation.

Featuring raw photos and video from the U.S. civil rights movement, Power to the People documents historical repression and black protest. The goal of the three-month long exhibition is to get viewers thinking about how past events compare to what's happening today.

"This is a problem that's never going away," said Paul Roth, the centre's gallery director. "The way we look at these events has become more democratic, but the issues at the roots of the protests are still lingering."

What's also changed is the way events are documented, he said. While it took experienced journalists and photographers to collect images from the civil rights movement in the 1960s, technology now allows anyone to be a driving force of activism.

"Anyone with a cellphone can capture and share acts of violence on our streets," he said, noting the immediacy helps expose injustice.

The centre is also partnering with the Toronto-based Black Artists Network Dialogue to launch No Justice, No Peace: From Ferguson to Toronto. Opening next month at the Gladstone, the popup gallery will showcase images from more recent Black Lives Matter protests against systemic violence by police.

"It is really exciting how photography still has power to connect us to history," said Roth. "It's also depressing that this level of oppression still exists."

Power to the People, an exhibit about the history of protest in the black community at the Ryerson Image Centre on Tuesday.
EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

> **Anyone with a cellphone can capture and share acts of violence on our streets.**
> Paul Roth

Images tell protest tales

Power to the People opens Wednesday and runs to April 9. Images range from prison protests to the 1968 gun battle between police and activists from the Black Panther Party. This is some of what you'll see.

Inmates of Attica State Prison negotiate with state prisons Commissioner Russell Oswald at the facility in Attica, NY, Sept. 10, 1971. COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bob Schutz, clenched fists at Attica State Prison, Attica, NY, Sept. 10, 1971. COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stephen Shames, Black Panthers carry George Jackson's coffin into St. Augustine's Church, Oakland, California, Aug. 28, 1971, gelatin silver print. COURTESY OF THE STEVEN KASHER GALLERY

New York lawyer William Kunstler arrives at Attica Prison for negotiations between inmates and prison officials, Attica, NY, Sept. 11, 1971. COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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'Rare and exceptional'

DOWNTOWN

But historic building isn't immune to the condo boom

The real estate ad calls it a "landmark" in an "irreplaceable location." Heritage reports describe the curved five-storey building next to Union Station as "a rare and exceptional example in Canada of Beaux-Arts Classicism."

But the most remarkable thing about the Dominion Public Building at 1 Front St. W., may be its resistance to the downtown's encroaching glass towers.

That's about to change, however.

Although the interior and exterior heritage features of the old flat-roofed customs house will be protected, the building is up for sale and will likely be the basis for a significant development.

Considered surplus by the federal government, it serves as an office for about 1,500 employees, including Canada Revenue Agency workers, who will be relocated in the Toronto area by 2021.

Classical detailing on the Front, Yonge and Bay St. fronts of the building include carved acanthus leaves, the dentils and stone lions' heads. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Dominion Public Building is being touted for its "exceptional development potential" in a newspaper ad by BMO Capital Markets, sales agent for the building.

That's probably not an exaggeration, said Barry Fenton, president and CEO of Lanterra Developments. He calls it "one of the most magnificent buildings left in the city of Toronto," and he thinks the site could potentially host a tower taller than Lanterra's Ice condos near Bremner Boulevard and York Street. They stand at 65 and 55 storeys.

"Because you're having to replace a lot of heritage in there — which you should — there's a cost analysis that will have to be taken into consideration as well," said Fenton.

Depending on what the city allows, the site could house up to 1 million sq. ft. suitable for a hotel, commercial and residential uses, he said.

Lanterra, which has incorporated heritage buildings into its projects including 1 Bedford Rd. and the Burano on Bay Street near College Street, will bid on the 2-acre site, said Fenton.

A city staff report notes that the depth of the site, access limitations, parking and loading considerations are among the potential development constraints.

"It is up to the real estate industry to bring 21st century design and conservation excellence to one of the city's most important and busiest intersections, and in the context of the urban design of Union Station," said the report.

Prospective buyers have until Feb. 2 to submit a bid on the property. However, because of city approvals, it's likely to be years before any construction starts on the property.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Dominion Building in 1935. CONTRIBUTED

A heritage landmark

The Dominion Public Building received Canada's highest heritage designation in 1983. But that protection expired once the building was transferred out of federal hands, so the city moved last year to protect it municipally.

Built between 1929 and 1935, Toronto's third customs house was used by the government to inspect, store and tax imported and exported goods.

It stands on a stretch of Front Street that was redesigned after the great fire of 1904, and was conceived as part of a grand boulevard connected by impressive architecture. The customs house was among the works of Thomas Fuller, the Canadian government's chief architect for public works.

Beaux Arts is the style that was applied to public buildings in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. CITY OF TORONTO/TORSTAR

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VITALITY ASSURANCE VACATIONS

Trudeau keeping mum on vacation

POLITICS

Watchdog investigating use of private helicopter

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau refuses to say how many times he's been to the private Bahamian island of the Aga Khan, the billionaire spiritual leader who has been his family friend since he was a young boy.

Trudeau's recent secret family vacation to the tropical isle has prompted an investigation by the federal ethics commissioner, after opposition MPs complained the trip — which Trudeau admitted included a ride on the Aga Khan's private helicopter — broke the federal Conflict of Interest Act.

Speaking to reporters during a stop on his campaign-style public tour in Fredericton, N.B. on Tuesday, Trudeau also refused to say how many times he has accepted rides on private aircraft owned by the Aga Khan.

"This was a private vacation," the prime minister said in French, repeating what he has said for several days about his willingness to speak with ethics commissioner Mary Dawson about the trip.

"My office is working with her office to organize the next steps and answer her questions," he said.

Questions about the trip have dogged Trudeau since his office admitted, after refusing to disclose anything about his vacation for several days, that the prime minister, his family and a few friends accepted an invitation to the Aga Khan's private Bell Island during the holidays.

In the face of media pressure, the Prime Minister's Office revealed that the friends on the trip were Newfoundland MP Seamus O'Regan, Liberal party president Anna Gainey and their spouses.

Trudeau has repeatedly justified the trip as a family vacation to visit a longtime friend. But the vacation has come under close scrutiny because of the Aga Khan's foundation in Canada, which has landed more than $300 million in government aid contracts since 2004.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau fields questions in Fredericton on Tuesday. ANDREW VAUGHN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

CONSERVATIVES

O'Leary still mulling bid for leadership

Kevin O'Leary is refusing to confirm he's ready to join the Conservative leadership race Wednesday after months of testing the waters.

But the possibility that O'Leary, a businessman and reality television personality, will enter the race is being taken seriously by candidates vying to replace Stephen Harper. The CBC reported Tuesday night O'Leary would formally enter the race Wednesday.

Amy Mills, a spokeswoman for O'Leary's leadership "exploratory committee," refused to confirm or deny the report when reached by Torstar on Tuesday. Mills did confirm O'Leary is scheduled to give a number of media interviews. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Kevin O'Leary THE CANADIAN PRESS

CMHC to raise rates

Canada's federal housing agency is hiking the cost of mortgage loan insurance for homebuyers starting March 17, as part of new regulatory requirements requiring it to hold more capital to offset risks in the country's red-hot real estate market.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. said Tuesday it doesn't anticipate the increases will have a "significant impact" on homebuyers and expects the changes will add about $5 to a monthly mortgage payment for those with an average CMHC-insured loan of approximately $245,000.

But taken together with other changes recently put in place in an effort to cool down Canada's housing market, James Laird, co-founder of interest rate-comparison website RateHub, says the CMHC increase will have an effect on homebuyers, particularly those who will be purchasing property for the first time. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Manning's sentence commuted

WIKILEAKS

Former Army intelligence officer to be freed in May

President Barack Obama commuted the prison sentence of Chelsea Manning on Tuesday, allowing the Army intelligence officer who leaked scores of classified documents to go free nearly three decades early.

Manning, who will leave prison in May, was one of 209 inmates whose sentences Obama was shortening, a list that includes Puerto Rican nationalist Oscar Lopez-Rivera. Obama also pardoned 64 people, including retired Gen. James Cartwright, who was charged with making false statements during a probe into disclosure of classified information.

"These 273 individuals learned that our nation is a forgiving nation," said White House counsel Neil Eggleston, "where hard work and a commitment to rehabilitation can lead to a second chance, and where wrongs from the past will not deprive an individual of the opportunity to move forward."

U.S. President Barack Obama commuted the sentence of Chelsea Manning, who is serving 35 years behind bars for leaking classified documents. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

> We are all better off knowing that Chelsea Manning will walk out of prison a free woman, dedicated to making the world a better place and fighting for justice for so many. Chase Strangio, Manning's lawyer

The actions are permanent, and can't be undone by President-elect Donald Trump. White House officials said Obama would grant clemency to more individuals on Thursday - his final day in office - but that batch was not expected to include prominent individuals like Manning.

A former Army intelligence analyst, Manning has been serving a 35-year sentence for leaking more than 700,000 classified government and military documents to WikiLeaks, along with some battlefield video. She was convicted in military court in 2013 of six violations of the Espionage Act and 14 other offences and has spent more than six years behind bars. She asked Obama last November to commute her sentence to time served.

Known as Bradley Manning at the time of her 2010 arrest, Manning came out as transgender after being sentenced, and LGBT rights groups took up her cause and lobbied the president to grant her clemency. She was held at a men's prison in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and filed a transgender prisoner rights lawsuit, although the military did approve gender-reassignment hormone therapy.

She attempted suicide twice last year, according to her lawyers, citing her treatment in prison. Manning has acknowledged leaking the documents, but has she did it to raise public awareness about the effects of war on civilians.

White House officials said the president was inclined to grant clemency to Manning because she had expressed remorse for her crimes and had served several years of her sentence. The officials briefed reporters on a conference call on condition of anonymity. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GLOBAL DIGEST

AUSTRALIA

Minister defends end of hunt for MH370

Australia's Transport Minister Darren Chester said on Wednesday that experts will continue analyzing data and scrutinizing debris washing ashore from Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 in a bid to narrow down where it crashed in the southern Indian Ocean. But Chester declined to specify what kind of breakthrough would convince officials to resume the search for the missing airliner that was suspended this week after almost three fruitless years of searching. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OHIO

60-year-old gorilla, 1st to be born in a zoo, dies

The world's first gorilla born in a zoo, a female named Colo who became the oldest known living gorilla in the U.S., has died at age 60, the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium said Tuesday. Colo died in her sleep overnight, less than a month after her birthday, the zoo announced. She surpassed the usual life expectancy of captive gorillas by two decades. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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AFTERSHOCK

Pessimism abounds for young Americans

As Donald Trump approaches his inauguration, young Americans have a deeply pessimistic view about his incoming administration, with young blacks, Latinos and Asian Americans particularly concerned about what's to come in the next four years.

That's according to a new GenForward poll of Americans aged 18 to 30, which found that the country's young adults are more likely to expect they'll be worse off at the end of Trump's first term than better off. Such young Americans are also far more likely to think Trump will divide the country than unite it, by a 60 per cent to 19 per cent margin.

70%

Nearly three quarters of black Americans think Trump will further divide the U.S.

Fifty-two per cent of young whites, 72 per cent of Latinos, 66 per cent of Asian-Americans and 70 per cent of blacks think Trump's presidency will lead to a more divided nation.

"Minority people are very afraid of all the rhetoric that he ran upon (in) his campaign," said Jada Selma, a 28-year-old African-American graduate school student living in Atlanta. "Anytime he mentioned black people, he would talk about poor people or inner city. He would think that all of us live in the inner city and that we're all poor."

"If you're not a straight white male, than I don't think he's looking out for you as an American," she said.

GenForward is a survey of adults age 18 to 30 by the Black Youth Project at the University of Chicago with the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. The first-of-its-kind poll pays special attention to the voices of young adults of colour, highlighting how race and ethnicity shape the opinions of a new generation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Georgia Congressman John Lewis made headlines over the weekend for challenging Trump's legitimacy to be the next president. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

More Dems boycotting inauguration

POLITICS

Trump's feud with civil rights activist continues

The roster of House Democrats planning to boycott President-elect Donald Trump's inauguration grew to about 50 on Tuesday in a protest of the New York businessman's policies and his repeated criticism of legendary civil rights activist John Lewis.

The Georgia congressman made headlines over the weekend for challenging Trump's legitimacy to be the next president and erroneously claiming that Trump's inauguration would be the first he will have missed since coming to Congress three decades ago.

In fact, Lewis had skipped President George W. Bush's inauguration in 2001.

Trump struck on Tuesday morning, as is typical, on Twitter: "WRONG (or lie)!" Trump tweeted, citing a 2001 Washington Post report that noted Lewis had skipped George W. Bush's inauguration.

Lewis' office on Tuesday confirmed that the congressman had missed Bush's swearing-in.

"His absence at that time was also a form of dissent," said spokeswoman Brenda Jones. "He did not believe the outcome of that election, including the controversies around the results in Florida and the unprecedented intervention of the U.S. Supreme Court, reflected a free, fair and open democratic process."

Lewis said last week that he would skip Trump's swearing in on Friday, telling NBC News that he didn't view Trump as a legitimate president.

The number of Democrats boycotting Trump's inauguration continued to increase, including Minnesota Rep. Keith Ellison, a top contender to lead the Democratic National Committee, as well as many black and Hispanic lawmakers. Top Democrats like House Minority leader Nancy Pelosi and Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York will attend, however, and none of the Senate Democrats said they'll skip the inauguration.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PROTEST

A federal appeals court says protesters planning to demonstrate against President-elect Donald Trump can't gather on key portions of the inaugural parade route.

The ruling Tuesday upholds National Park Service regulations that say most of the area known as Freedom Plaza and the sidewalks in front of the Trump International Hotel are limited to bleacher seating.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metro VIEWS
METRO FOCUS ON ACTIVISM!
Your essential daily news
ALL WEEK: COMMENTARY AND IDEAS ON POLITICAL ACTION

JESSICA ALLEN ON PROTESTS OVER HOLLYWOOD CASTING

It never ceases to surprise that television and movie producers keep feigning shock and innocence when accusations of white-washing shower down on them.

The outrage over casting Joseph Fiennes, a white English actor, as Michael Jackson, an African-American pop star, in a new British satirical television series, Urban Myths, started a year ago. It crescendoed last week when Jackson's daughter, Paris, tweeted that the newly released trailer featuring Fiennes in facial prosthetics made her "want to vomit."

In an unusual twist, Urban Myths' broadcaster, Sky Arts, responded to the backlash and shelved the episode, in which MJ, Marlon Brando, and Elizabeth Taylor take a post-9/11 road trip. Too bad, because I'd really like to see Brian Cox play Brando and Stockard Channing channel Liz.

But I get it. What's surprising is that television and movie producers keep feigning shock and innocence when accusations of white-washing shower down on them.

This example, of course, is more complicated than most. Many pointed out that an African-American actor would've had to undergo just an extreme transformation — if not more — as Fiennes did to play Jackson.

We can't ask Jackson's opinion. But in a 1993 interview with Oprah, he was very clear about his racial identity. Winfrey went through a laundry list of tabloid stories — the oxygen chamber, procuring the Elephant Man's bones — while Jackson explained why they were nonsense. Then she got to the rumour about him wanting a white boy to play him in a commercial. "That is so stupid," he said, exasperated. "That is the most ridiculous horrifying story I've ever heard. It's crazy. Why would I want a white child to play me? I'm a black American. I'm proud to be a black American. I am proud of my race. I am proud of who I am."

I wouldn't be surprised if the folks involved with Urban Myths never saw that interview, though it was the most watched in television history. But it's impossible that they wouldn't be aware that casting Fiennes would be contentious.

It's easier to give old Hollywood a pass, as we do when grandpa Doug calls Asians "Orientals." Things were different back them: John Wayne played Genghis Khan, Laurence Olivier played Othello, and Katharine Hepburn took a turn as Jade Tan, a Chinese woman, in Dragon Seed.

But deciding to cast Joel Edgerton as Ramses II and Christian Bale as Moses, for example, in 2014's Exodus? Or Jake Gyllenhaal as the Prince of Persia? Or having a white man save jazz in La La Land?

On one hand, some of these movies wouldn't have gotten made without a bankable A-lister. (In the case of Aloha, Cameron Crowe's 2015 execrable film starring Emma Stone as a character of Hawaiian and Chinese decent, that might not have been a bad thing.) And the pool from which A-listers are drawn is very white.

Joseph Fiennes, as Michael Jackson, and Stockard Channing, as Elizabeth Taylor, appear in a scene from a shelved episode of the British TV series "Urban Myths." CONTRIBUTED

On the other, people in power could lead by example: "If eight white men — Wes Anderson, David O. Russell, Richard Linklater, Steven Soderbergh, the Coen Brothers, Quentin Tarantino and Woody Allen — were to commit to diverse casting, the Oscar conversation would be totally different," author and journalist Jeff Yang told IndieWire in a roundtable last year pegged to #OscarSoWhite. "Each of these guys can literally choose to cast anyone they want, with little opposition from money guys or studios."

Confession here: I used to get so excited when people would include Elizabeth Taylor as Cleopatra on Hollywood white-washing lists because it meant I could finally put my classics degree to use. "Cleopatra was an Egyptian pharaoh, the last actually," I'd say, smugly. "But she was Macedonian, descended from Alexander the Great's general Ptolemy."

More recently, however, when the same outrage surfaced over the idea of Angelina Jolie playing the Queen of the Nile, I paused.

I'm not sure sanctimonious historical arguments like my old chestnut about Cleo hold much sway today. When we talk about this type of casting, we're talking as much about how we live now as about the who, what, where and when of the subject. And anyone who rolls their eyes at that would be well advised to remember the wounded outrage of angry men throwing racial epithets at Leslie Jones because a woman put on a proton pack or those who felt there was no place for John Boyega, a black English actor, in The Force Awakens — and told him so. There are literally green people in that galaxy far, far away.

Whether a story takes place a long time ago or in recent memory, remember what William Faulkner once wrote: "The past is never dead. It isn't even past."

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

ACTIVIST WISDOM **Know your history!**

"Must we reinvent the wheel, or have we been in a similar situation before? Building a sense of history is important for today's activists. History isn't just what came before; it's a process of working through and evaluating things in our own contexts, with our own insights. From looking at earlier periods, struggles, strategies, gains and defeats, we can better understand how power is reproduced and find weaknesses and contradictions in the system." - Prof. Aziz Choudry, author of Learning Activism: The Intellectual Life of Contemporary Social Movements

VICKY MOCHAMA

All for one, one for all? Not quite

The Women's March on Saturday will bring together women — and men, FYI — from across the globe to protest Donald Trump's presidency.

From the outset, however, the march's effort to rally women echoed a history of fissures and fractures within the feminist movement.

Separately but simultaneously, two women — Bob Bland, a fashion designer in New York and Teresa Shook, a grandmother in Hawaii — conceived of a protest in the nation's capital.

Despite their eagerness, neither woman was a professional organizer. Further, the march was called the Million Woman March. Almost immediately, women of colour criticized the event for failing to be inclusive; racialized women with experience planning mass protests could have anticipated the obstacles. For black women especially, the name was a copycat of a 1997 march for black women which, it seemed, organizers had not known about.

The organizers quickly put women of colour at the top of the organizing committee.

But longstanding grievances had already been aired.

During the election, the Clinton campaign tied the candidate's trajectory to the 1848 Women's Rights Conventions in Seneca Falls. No women of colour were present at that meeting. (Only Frederick Douglass, a black man, was present.) By frequently citing this moment, Clinton evoked a history based on intentionally excluding women of colour.

In the activist era of the '60s and '70s, this brand of white feminism entered mainstream politics. Betty Friedan's Feminist Mystique may have given voice to "the problem that has no name" but she was also vocal in excluding lesbians. While white feminists campaigned for (some) women's rights on education, work and reproduction, they were, as a whole, nowhere to be found on civil rights.

Race, sexuality and gender are still contentious within feminism. You might call it in-fighting but it's really a push for accountability. Big or small, each conflagration among feminists is necessary to creating more a inclusive and effective movement. So-called infighting is essential for reminding us that modern feminism is still, and always will be, a work in progress.

When Lena Dunham complained that Odell Beckham Jr., a receiver for the New York Giants, had ignored her because she wasn't a model, black women called her out for perpetuating a dangerous myth about black male sexuality. Dunham — along with Amy Schumer, whom Dunham was interviewing about how great they both are — then asked Xavier Burgin, a black male filmmaker to talk the issue through with them.

Nearly 170 years after Seneca Falls, white feminists chose to listen to a black man rather than black women.

As the buses roll into D.C., remember that a common enemy doesn't quite mean we are all on the same team.

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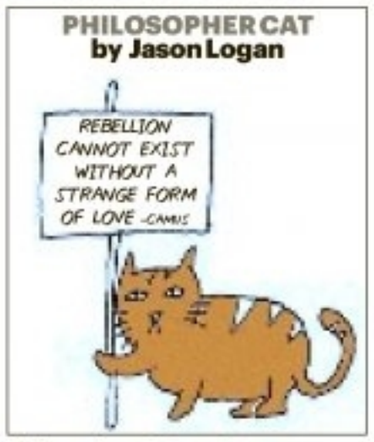

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OUR YEAR IN REVIEW FOR 2016

REDEFINING THE TERM "WELL CONNECTED"

There are over 500 projects underway across the region -- all designed to create a fast, seamless and reliable travel experience. Get details on how we're updating the Regional Transportation Plan at metrolinx.com/theplan.

MORE STATIONS AND MORE CONNECTIONS

This year, we announced the addition of 12 future new stations within our existing rail network. While those stations are still in the planning phase, we started running service to the new Gormley GO Station in 2016. More GO stations mean more GO service.

WE'RE GOING THE EXTRA MILE MORE OFTEN

We added GO train service to the Milton, Stouffville and Richmond Hill lines. We also introduced service to Gormley, year-round weekend service on the Barrie line and all-new GO bus service to Brantford and Cambridge.

PRESTO! WE'RE ON THE TTC

PRESTO's footprint is growing with the TTC. PRESTO is now enabled at all subway stations and all surface vehicles. PRESTO cards can also be purchased at 51 Gateway Newstands locations in TTC subway stations and now in Union Station.

UPTOWN, DOWNTOWN, CROSSTOWN

Tunnelling on the Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (LRT) project is now complete, and 14 underground stations are well underway. We're also moving forward LRT projects in Mississauga, Hamilton and Finch West in Toronto.

GOING BEYOND RAIL

We partnered with the Toronto Parking Authority to double the size of the existing Bike Share Toronto network. Now, there are 120 new bike stations and 1,000 new bikes to get you around the city.

metro LIFE
Your essential daily news
Wednesday, January 18, 2017

As she celebrated her birthday Tuesday, Betty White says the best thing about being 95 is that she's still employed.

Tired, envious and gassy: Welcome to the 10-day detox

Despite a lack of evidence they're good for you, detox programs are wildly popular. Wanting to get a healthy start in January after gaining 16 pounds in 2016, **Melissa Dunne** decides to try one anyway.

Cold-pressed juice cleanses are no longer in style. Lately, editors at fashion bible Vogue, and other trendsetters, are preaching slightly less severe measures. Detoxes that focus on preparing and eating whole foods are being hocked by everyone from celebrities to fit nutritionists and cookbook authors such as Joy McCarthy and Melissa Hartwig.

Hartwig, in particular, has gained a cult following — with her The Whole30 book spending 66 weeks and counting on The New York Times bestseller list. Acolytes of hers, and similar programs, are generally not allowed to consume a long list of foods, drinks, and additives for 30 days. Many programs also offer a 10-day, or even two-day, detox plans.

If you do manage to stick with Hartwig's 30-day program, her website promises it "will change your life." But, registered dietitian Andrea Miller warns people need to be wary of such promises.

"There is no solid scientific research on detoxes, it's mostly anecdotal information," said Miller in a phone interview from Whitby, Ont. "I advise my clients to look at the source and ask themselves: 'Does (the person selling the detox) have something to gain from this?'"

The nutrition expert also points out that there is generally no need for healthy people to do a detox program as our bodies already naturally detox via our kidneys and liver. Which doesn't mean Miller is staunchly against the concept, saying that if a program helps some people get in the habit of preparing and eating more whole foods on a regular basis, then that can be a good thing.

What's not such a good thing is the temporary nature of detoxes, she warns. Programs with strict rules means many adherents may white-knuckle their way through a time-based plan only to inevitably return to their unhealthy eating habits the minute it's over.

Beyond the end of January, Miller recommends setting some SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and trackable) nutrition and fitness goals you can reach throughout 2017.

Now that sounds like a smart plan most of us could stick to for longer than 30 days.

> **There is no solid scientific research on detoxes.**
> Andrea Miller, dietician

DETOX DELIGHTS Melissa Dunne's ten-day program mixed DIY dishes and adapted store-bought bowls. MELISSA DUNNE

GOOP OR JOYOUS? TWO DETOXES YIELDING SIMILAR RESULTS

Why Melissa Dunne's first 10 days of 2016 were a struggle

For me, last year was an *annus horribilis*.

The cherry on my misery sundae was that I ended 2016 exactly 16 pounds heavier than a mere year earlier. Admittedly, I had been eating too much ice cream to soothe my frayed nerves. So, in a bid to start this year with fewer sundaes and more smoothies, I did a 10-day detox.

For the first five days of 2017 I followed the plan from Goop Clean Beauty, written by the editors of Gwyneth Paltrow's lifestyle publication.

The rules were, no: alcohol, caffeine, dairy, eggs, beef, pork, shellfish, raw fish, gluten, soy, nightshades, strawberries, oranges, grapefruits, grapes, bananas, corn, white rice, sugar, peanuts, processed oils, and processed butters.

Thankfully, I then consciously uncoupled from that detox for the remaining five days, following the rules in the new book Joyous Detox by Joy McCarthy.

These rules were, no: refined sugar, artificial sweeteners, dairy, gluten, peanuts, unfermented soy, corn, alcohol, coffee, and genetically modified organisms.

On both detoxes I had throbbing headaches; felt constantly exhausted; burned with jealousy when my friends gorged on snacks; and spent an inordinate amount of time on the ceramic throne. Mistakes? I made a few (like not realizing there is caffeine in decaf coffee).

In the end, I lost a measly two pounds. But, what I did gain was a renewed belief that I am strong enough to make this year better than the last.

That may sound a little corny to some, but after not being able to eat corn for a week and a half I'll take what I can get.

READ MELISSA DUNNE'S FULL DETOX DIARY AT METRONEWS.CA

CANADIAN SCREEN AWARDS

Dolan, Orphan Black ahead of the pack

Montreal director Xavier Dolan's Oscar hopeful It's Only the End of the World and Space's human cloning series Orphan Black lead the pack going into this year's Canadian Screen Awards.

Dolan's French-language drama, about a dying writer who returns home to his estranged family, topped the film category with nine nominations. They include best picture, best director, best adapted screenplay and best actor for French star Vincent Cassel.

It's Only the End of the World is one of nine features being considered for a best foreign language film nomination at this year's Academy Awards.

On the TV side, Orphan Black leads with 14 nominations, including best dramatic series, best direction, and best actress for Regina native Tatiana Maslany. The Emmy winner is also up for a second award, for best actress in a film for The Other Half.

The awards honour film, television and digital media titles in 134 categories and represent voices from across Canada, said organizers.

"I just think it's pretty incredible that our motion picture category has films in four different languages," said Beth Janson, CEO of the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television, after the nominations were announced on Tuesday.

Other films with multiple nominations include the biopic Race, about American track star Jesse Owens, which is up for eight trophies including best picture and best actor for Toronto's Stephan James.

Tied with six nominations apiece are: Bruce McDonald's black-and-white coming-of-age tale Weirdos, Matt Johnson's fake moon-landing documentary Operation Avalanche and Chloe Leriche's Before the Streets, about an indigenous teen seeking redemption.

They're all up for best picture, a field that also includes: Louis Belanger's marijuana comedy Bad Seeds; Kevan Funk's hockey drama Hello Destroyer; Johnny Ma's Chinese taxi driver thriller Old Stone; Zacharias Kunuk's Arctic epic Searchers; and Those Who Make Revolution Halfway Only Dig Their Own Graves, by Mathieu Denis and Simon Lavoie.

Xavier Dolan's It's Only The End of the World earned nine Canadian Screen Awards nominations. GETTY IMAGES FILE

The awards show will be broadcast live on CBC from Toronto's Sony Centre for the Performing Arts on March 12. Canadian comedian Howie Mandel will host. THE CANADIAN PRESS

LIQUID ASSETS PETER ROCKWELL

This true American icon will Trump the new leader

Whatever Dante's Inferno type scenario gets unleashed this Friday when Donald J. Trump is sworn in as president of the United States, I have no doubt that the majority of the world will be crying into a large glass of something alcoholic.

Odds are Trump will be popping a few corks of sparkling wine from the family's eponymous winery his son runs in Virginia. It's unlikely you'll find a bottle on this side of the border easily if you're a supporter. They only appear to export their surprisingly decent tasting stuff to Alberta.

Better to indulge in a drop made by a true American winemaking celebrity like Robert Mondavi. The late Californian was an undisputed pioneer whose forward-thinking and class continues to inspire winemakers around the world.

His namesake 2014 Private Selection Cabernet Sauvignon ($15.99-$19.99) is lightly oaked and made from grapes grown throughout the Golden State. Rich, dark and chewy, it's ideal with red meats, and with the amalgamation in mind, a full serving of baloney.

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APPLE UPGRADE

Take a bite and add more Pazazz to your palate

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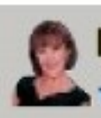
After 10 years of development, the new apple with the crunchy texture of its Honeycrisp mom and its very own burst of sweet-tart flavour is available from now until the end of February.

Deep red with a creamy yellow or white background, Pazazz has inherited the delicate cell structure of its Honeycrisp parent, which revolutionized the apple industry back in 1991 by combining a sweet flavour with a supercrisp, super- juicy texture.

Pazazz is not genetically modified, it was developed using traditional breeding methods. It is not being grown in Ontario because its breeders feel that, like Honeycrisp, it grows better in Nova Scotia's cooler climate.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ROSE REISMAN THE SAVVY EATER



THIS WEEK: Which of these soft Italian cheeses is hard on the fat counter?

An easy substitution between these two cheeses can make for lighter dishes.

PICK THIS

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Calories 90
Fat 6g
Saturated Fat 4g

SKIP THIS

Tre Stelle Mascarpone (per 55g)

Calories 170
Fat 15g
Saturated Fat 10g

HERE'S WHY

Equivalent to an Arby's Classic Roast Beef Sandwich in fat.

Mascarpone is a rich cheese made from cream and is a favourite ingredient for desserts, most notably the Italian dish Tiramisu. The creamy cheese is also used in pastas, risottos, sauces, cheesecakes and as a topping for soups. However, its decadent nature means high amounts of calories, fat and artery-clogging saturated fat. Ricotta, made from milk and whey, is a much lighter alternative to cook and bake with; it has about half the calories and fat of mascarpone.

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Unsettling...and made for our anxious times

THE SHOW: A Series of Unfortunate Events, Season 1, Episode 2 (Netflix)
THE MOMENT: "We're all frightened"

Neil Patrick Harris's money-craving Count Olaf adds to the sense of unease in A Series of Unfortunate Events. CONTRIBUTED

The brilliant, plucky Baudelaire children — tweens Violet (Malina Weissman) and Klaus (Louis Hynes), and baby Sunny (Presley Smith) — believe their parents died in a fire. They've been taken in — kidnapped — by Count Olaf (Neil Patrick Harris), an evil actor who craves their fortune. Behind the scenes, mysterious good guys Jacquelyn (Sara Canning) and Gustav (Luke Camilleri) plot via phone.

"Dr. Montgomery was supposed to be their new guardian," Gustav says. "What went wrong?"

"Mr. Poe listened to the advice of a consultant," Jacquelyn says.

"A consultant!" Gustav exclaims. "Dear God, why would anyone listen to a consultant! The children must be frightened."

"We're all frightened, Gustav," Jacquelyn replies.

Meanwhile in their attic chamber, Klaus and Violet talk. "Sunny must be so frightened," Klaus says.

"We're all frightened, Klaus," Violet replies.

I'm ambivalent about the Lemony Snicket books this series is based on (by Daniel Handler, who also writes the show). The writing is clever, but smug about its cleverness. The pileup of unfortunate events, which are frustratingly preventable, make me anxious. The message — that pluck and resourcefulness can ease, though not always conquer, depressing situations — is true, but sad. I'm having the same struggles with the series.

I do, however, marvel at how prescient it feels for this anxious moment in time. Uninformed people acting in error because they listened to the wrong advice? Marginalized good guys wondering how to fix things? A conscienceless money-grubber who kidnapped us when we were meant to have a proper, qualified guardian?

We're all frightened, world.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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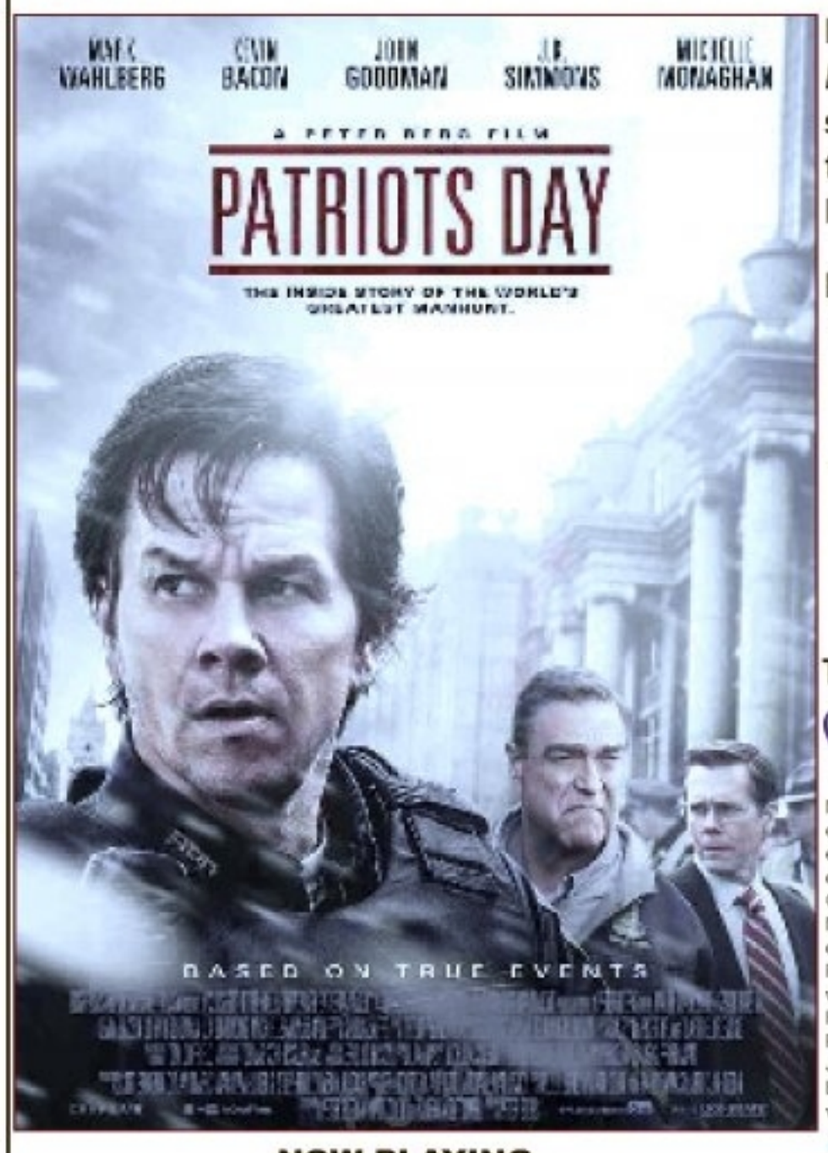

NOW PLAYING

In honour of *Patriots Day*, we're sending one winner to experience a little bit of Boston Strong.

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No purchase necessary. Skill testing question required. Limit of one entry per person per day. Contest open to residents of Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, and Nova Scotia who are 18 years of age or older as of the start of the Contest Period. One prize is available to be won. Approximate retail value of the Prize is $1,600CAD. The Contest Period begins at 3:00 PM ET on January 17, 2017 and ends at 9am ET on January 25, 2017. For rules, visit http://wonderlist.ca

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Volkswagen ID Buzz Concept debuts as microbus of the future

All the right proportions

THE CHECKLIST | 2017 INFINITI QX30 SPORT

THE BASICS

Engine: 2.0L turbo Four-cylinder
Output: 208 hp, 258 lb-ft of torque
Transmission: Seven-speed dual-clutch auto
Fuel Economy (L/100 km): 9.7 city, 7.1 hwy
Price: Sport model starts at $46,490

LOVE IT
- Great driving dynamics
- Stylish look
- Smooth highway driving

LEAVE IT
- Can get pricey
- Lack of AWD on topline model
- Poor sightlines

REVIEW

Solid looks, solid ride, but where's the AWD?

Jodi Lai
AutoGuide.com

Tiny crossovers are the hottest thing in cars right now, and any automaker that doesn't have one is really behind the times.

Instead of putting a huge amount of dollars into making its own small crossover, Infiniti is piggybacking on a Mercedes platform and has come up with the QX30.

The tester here is the 2017 Infiniti QX30 Sport model, which is the topline model that comes packed with performance upgrades and almost all the features drivers want. More on that later.

I prefer the look of the Infiniti model over the GLA it's based on. The QX30 is much more stylish, a lot less generic, and it definitely looks more modern. The GLA has a beefier, boxier and more muscular look, but I like the swoopy lines of the Infiniti better.

The problem with that pretty design is that practicality takes a hit in terms of cargo capacity, room for rear passengers and sightlines. One of the biggest drawbacks of the QX30 is that it's really hard to see out of. The blind spots are huge, the windows are tiny, and even the windshield is so swept back that it doesn't give drivers a lot to work with.

Luckily this QX30 Sport, which is the fully loaded top of the line model, is equipped with a rear-view camera along with a top-down 360-degree view camera that makes parking and squeezing into tight places much easier.

Although the seven-speed dual clutch transmission gets confused sometimes at lower speeds and can shift abruptly now and then, it's not a deal breaker.

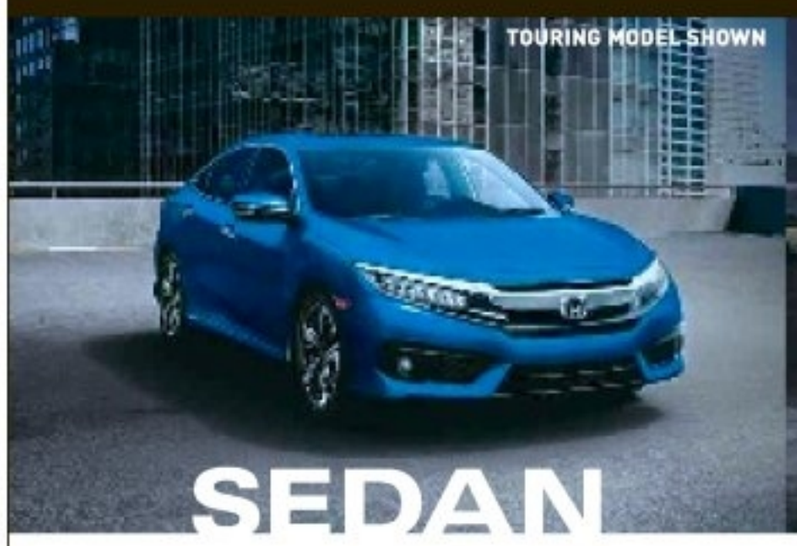
The QX30 is powered by a 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder engine that outputs 208 horsepower and 258 pound-feet of torque. That's plenty to get the crossover moving, but the engine isn't the smoothest at low speeds and it displays some turbo lag. At highway speeds, however, the engine exhibits Ryan Gosling smoothness. Very little noise and vibration make it into the cabin during highway drives.

This Sport model gets no power upgrades over the regular QX30, but it does get better brakes and a suspension that's tuned for better handling. That sportier suspension definitely makes the ride in the city more choppy, but it does mean that it's better in the corners, which is an OK compromise.

The weird thing is that this top of the line QX30 Sport isn't available with all-wheel drive, which seems like a missed opportunity. Buyers have to level down to get all-wheel drive. This was likely a move to keep the price in check, especially because this Sport model has so many other features, I can imagine it getting pretty expensive if it had all-wheel-drive.

HONDA

CIVIC FOR ALL



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HONDA

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Toyota creates 'kinetic warmth'

ASTON MARTIN

Insane hypercar heads to Canada

For the first time since its debut, the radical AM-RB 001 will venture out from Aston Martin's headquarters in Gaydon, England, to make its North American debut in Toronto on Feb. 16, 2017. Its jump over the Atlantic puddle for the Canadian International Auto Show will be the hypercar's first appearance in front of the anoraks on the global auto show stage.

MICHAEL ACCARDI/AUTOGUIDE.COM

WHEELS ROUNDUP

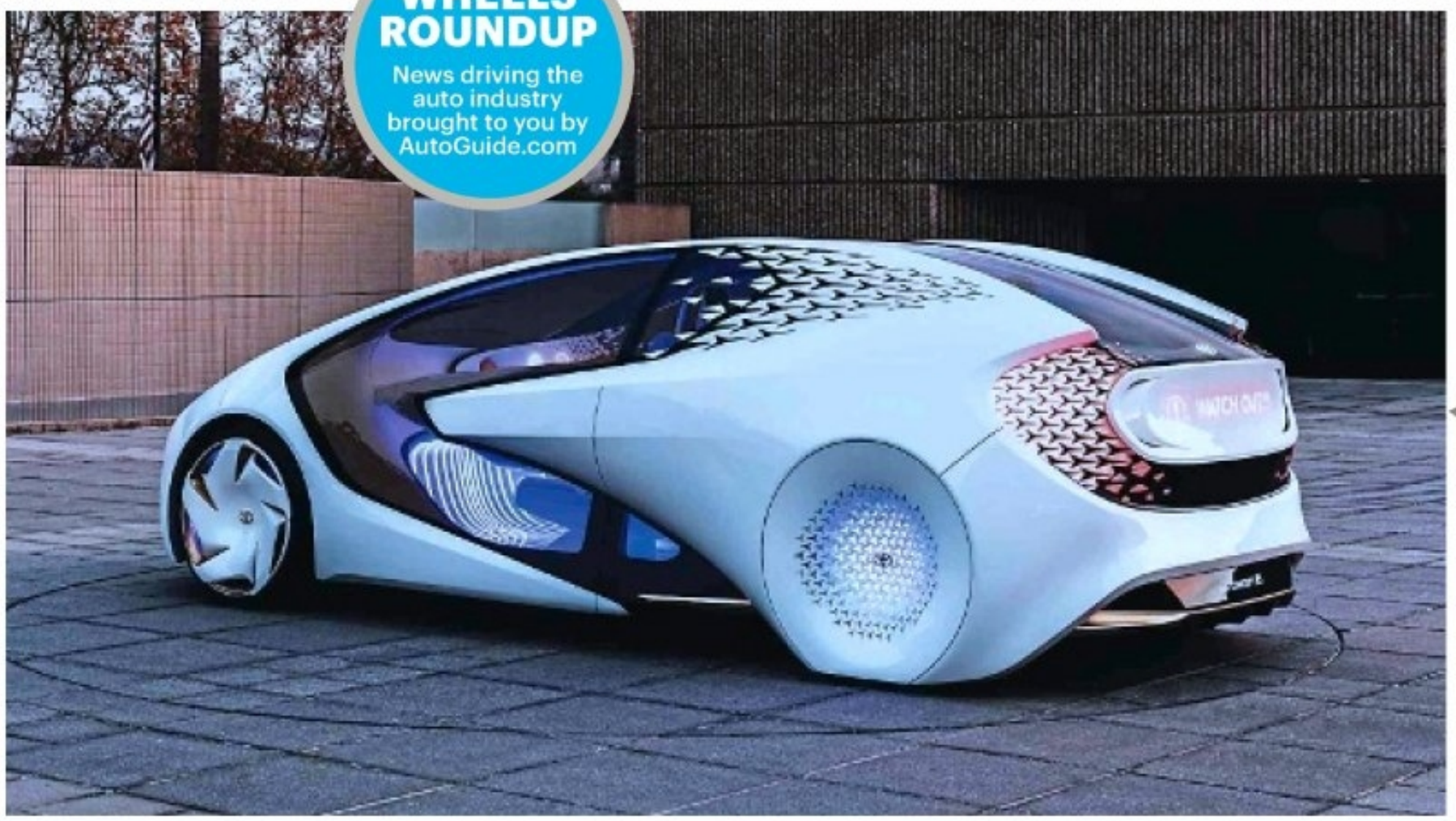
News driving the auto industry brought to you by AutoGuide.com

SKYJET

Lexus by land sea and air

Lexus is covering all three modes of transportation: land, sea and air. After unveiling a luxurious yacht concept featuring a pair of 5.0-litre V8 engines, the Japanese automaker unveiled a replica of a key pursuit craft in the 2017 film Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets. The single-seater Skyjet premiered as part of an Lexus event in Miami that also showcased the brand's latest products.

JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM



CONCEPT-I

Toyota concept aims for emotional bond

Toyota recently rolled out the Concept-i, a car that looks like something Apple would have designed. But unlike other high-tech vehicle concepts, Toyota's latest isn't a fully autonomous vehicle. In fact, the concept demonstrates the automaker's view that vehicles of the future should start with the people who use them. With that in mind, Toyota equipped the Concept-i with a powerful AI that is capable of learning with the driver, building a relationship that is both meaningful and human. The AI Agent is nicknamed "Yui" and is designed to communicate across cultures to a global audience. According to the Japanese automaker, it was created around the philosophy of "kinetic warmth," a belief that mobility technology should be warm, welcoming and fun. The AI takes advantage of advanced automated vehicle technologies to help improve driving safety, combined with visual and haptic stimuli to augment communication-based on driver responsiveness. Users can choose between automated or manual driving based on their personal preference and the concept will monitor driver attention and road conditions, increasing automated support when necessary. JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

TECHNOLOGY

BMW 'sculpture' thinks holograms are the future

BMW is focusing on technology that will work in conjunction with self-driving cars, such as a system that will offer information on passing buildings. The driver must simply point at the building, and thanks to gesture control, the car will bring up the requested info. That is also the reason the BMW i Inside Future sculpture was recently brought to CES 2017. It starts with the Holo-Active Touch system, which is a new kind of user interface that has a free-floating virtual display that users control with their hands, though no physical contact is ever made with the car. Haptic feedback is even offered thanks to ultrasonic sound.

STEPHEN ELMER/AUTOGUIDE.COM

IN BRIEF

Toyota building a hot hatch with over 200 horsepower

A legitimate contender to today's crop of great hot hatches like the Ford Fiesta ST is coming from an unlikely automaker: Toyota. Toyota has revealed its new Yaris hot hatch, packing three doors and more than 210 horsepower. The brand is also getting set to reveal its new Yaris WRC rally car, which serves as the inspiration for this new road-going hot Yaris. Toyota will reveal the new hot Yaris at the Geneva Motor Show in March alongside the redesigned standard variant of the Yaris which has a new front fascia, a revised rear end and a fresh interior. Toyota also says that the Yaris will offer a more comfortable ride and better handling. The Yaris Hybrid is being updated and made stronger, though new details were released. STEPHEN ELMER/AUTOGUIDE.COM

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Surprisingly fun and affordable rides

Sure, the Beetle isn't the fastest car out there, but the handling is great (and its good looks don't hurt either). HANDOUT

UNDER 30K

You don't need to spend lots of money to have a good time

Dan Ilika
AutoGuide.com

Here's the thing about fun cars: They don't always have to be fast.

Sure, a good turn of speed is always appreciated, but driving enjoyment doesn't hinge on it. Luckily, there are plenty of affordable options on the market that can provide some entertainment this side of the speed limit. There are obvious choices, like the Ford Fiesta ST and Volkswagen GTI, but we're talking about rides even more rudimentary than that, where even the base model can provide a daily does of amusement.

And so without further ado, here are, in no particular order, five cars that may not slay with speed, but do offer a surprising bit of fun behind the wheel.

Subaru Impreza
The new Impreza easily makes this list for its suddenly smile-inducing ways. Despite its shared bloodlines with the fun-defining WRX and STI models the Impreza has long been anything but exciting, doing little to impress when the turns tighten. That all changes in its fifth generation, with a stiff new chassis and revised suspension setup making a world of difference. Add in its reasonable price — the torque-vectoring-equipped Sport version is priced at $24,395 for a sedan and $25,295 for a hatch — and the Impreza is frugal and fun.

Mazda6
Of all the midsize sedans on the market, Mazda's offering may be the most engaging of the bunch. Sure, its four-cylinder engine can feel a bit underpowered at times, with only 184 horsepower and 185 lb-ft of torque to work with, but the Mazda6 has plenty else going for it. A rigid chassis and sporty suspension more than make up for what it lacks in pure power, leading to plenty of thrills on winding roads. The car's pricing provides another perk, with the manual-equipped Mazda6 starting at just $26,525.

Honda Fit
A roomy cabin and clever configurability are just two of the many reasons this wee wagon outshines the competition. And while the Fit isn't fast, it's definitely fun. Get up to speed by squeezing all 130 horsepower and 114 lb-ft of torque out of its 1.5-litre engine and the Fit feels firm and unfurrowed. It's also easily the most inexpensive car on this list, starting at $14,950.

HYBRID HOOPLA

Honda Accord Hybrid
The electrified Accord makes the list not just as an obligatory hybrid, but because it is actually capable of some semblance of fun in its second generation, and not just in the gauge cluster trying to set new hypermiling personal bests.

The new Accord Hybrid benefits from the chassis improvements rolled out on the refreshed gas-powered Accord to provide a more engaging ride this time around, with increased torsional rigidity and adaptive dampers.

Volkswagen Beetle
"Smiles for miles" is a great way to describe what the Beetle brings to the table. That it rides on a platform that once underpinned the GTI certainly helps make a case for this retro-inspired ride's fun factor. A taut chassis and wheels pushed close to all four corners allow the quintessential compact to be tossed into a corner and live to tell the tale, while responsive handling give it a go kart–like responsiveness. It's also not a pricey proposition, with the Beetle hardtop starting at just $19,990 in Canada.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

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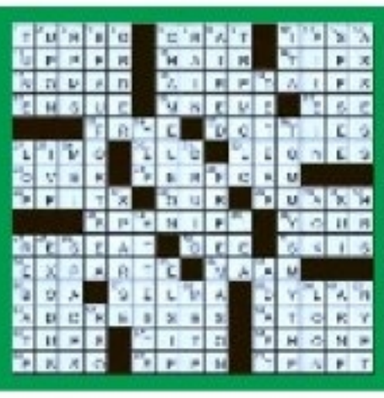

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5	4	6	9	3	7	2	1	8
7	6	2	1	4	8	9	5	3
9	1	3	6	2	5	8	4	7
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Five concept cars that debuted in Detroit

CAR SHOWS

Less flash and variety than years past

Jodi Lai
AutoGuide.com

The 2017 Detroit Auto Show was not the most exciting one in history, but it's really a sign of the times.

Crazy, pie-in-the-sky concept cars are getting tougher and tougher for automakers to justify because they cost a lot of money to make and if they don't preview an upcoming or future model, it's not enough to just create one for the sake of making a splash.

In the past, automakers used to make really flashy, wild concepts just for fun or to one-up each other, but the can't really do that these days of austere budgets and cutbacks. There weren't that many concept car debuts at the North American International Auto Show this year, as many of the cool ones like the Subaru Viziv-7 and Lexus UX, among others, already debuted late last year, even if they were present at this show.

The Audi Q8 concept SUV is unveiled during the 2017 North American International Auto Show in Detroit. It was one of only five concept vehicles to debut at the 2017 Detroit Auto Show. JIM WATSON/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Here are the Top Five (and only five, actually) concept car debuts at the 2017 Detroit Auto Show.

Lightning McQueen

OK, so this isn't really a concept vehicle, but the star of Disney/Pixar's Cars movie franchise made an appearance at the Detroit Auto Show this year. The timing of Lightning McQueen's appearance coincides with the release of the new trailer for Cars 3.

Nissan VMotion 2.0 Concept

This Nissan concept mainly exists to preview the Japanese automaker's plans for its autonomous driving technology, although it also hints at what its next Maxima family sedan could look like. Nissan says this sharp electric sedan concept should be capable of fully autonomous driving and will be totally connected to make life for busy professionals easier.

Volkswagen ID Buzz Concept

As a modern interpretation of the hippie microbus from the 1960s and '70s, this Volkswagen concept merges modern and retro in a cute and quirky package.

This ID Buzz concept is fully autonomous and all electric, and features a reconfigurable and swanky interior. It's not the first time Volkswagen has come out with a microbus concept, but that doesn't take away from how much we like this one.

Infiniti QX50 Concept

The Infiniti QX50 Concept might the one of the prettiest crossovers we have ever seen. Instead of the super aggressive lines and crazy angles of most SUVs these days, the Infiniti has a swoopy, beautiful design. The best part is that 90 per cent of the exterior design for this concept will carry over to the production model, which is coming soon.

Audi Q8 Concept

Taking our top spot for the best concept debut at the 2017 Detroit Auto Show is the Audi Q8 Concept, which previews a new full-size coupe SUV offering that will be produced soon. As one of the best-looking "coupe SUVs" out there, this one manages to have proper proportions and a sharp design.

More importantly, this concept is an e-Tron, which means it's a plug-in hybrid with a combined system output of 442 horsepower and a stout 516 pound-feet of torque. Total range on a full tank of gas and a full charge is said to be 999 kilometres.

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Hyundai is working on an exoskeleton that will help paraplegics walk again. HANDOUT

Trends in cars and tech that shined in Vegas

INNOVATION

Apps, EVs and mobility concepts ruled at CES

Sami Haj-Assaad
AutoGuide.com

The Consumer Electronics Show (CES) is quickly becoming the best show for automakers to debut all their new technology.

It's interesting to see automakers showing us their ideas and concepts for the future here at this Las Vegas event, which traditionally, isn't even a real car show, instead of the much more famous Detroit Auto Show. You can expect these trends to seriously shape the future of the automotive industry.

Autonomous Cars

Not only are most of the concept cars on display at CES being described as having some kind of autonomous features, but they're also adhering to the SAE levels of autonomy too, so people can better understand just how self sufficient their cars are.

Basically, there are three levels of self-driving vehicles. Level 5 cars are truly autonomous, so no steering wheels or pedals are needed for these kinds of cars. So far, it's just science fiction.

Level 4 cars can complete an entire journey in ideal driving conditions with barely any driver input. Making this easier, these cars have connected features that allow them to communicate with street lights and infrastructure. Expect these kinds of cars to show up in the next 10 years. In the next five years, you can expect to see Level 3 autonomous cars, which can drive on their own in certain situations.

Digital Assistants

Automakers are also realizing that they can provide a lot of assistance to drivers in the car, and not just during the act of driving. While people seem to hate listening to computers, they seem to connect with easy-to-use personal assistants like Siri or Alexa. Predictably, these kinds of assistants have been name dropped quite a bit here at the show, in addition to Microsoft's Cortana and the Google Assistant.

Apps and Connectivity

Ford and Toyota announced the SmartDeviceLink consortium, an organization that will help automakers support more and more devices and apps in their cars. So far, the consortium includes automakers like Mazda, Suzuki, Peugot, and Subaru, while many suppliers including Harman and QNX are also on board. Basically, the consortium agrees that having an open source standard for device connectivity will ensure better reliability and future proofing. It also means that many of your apps and smartphone features will be available in cars soon.

Electric Vehicles

Most, if not all, of the concepts shown here are electrified in some way. Electric vehicles of all shapes and sizes were dreamed up at the 2017 Consumer Electronics Show. For the city crowd, For the family vehicle crowd, there's the Chrysler Portal EV Concept, which packs a 100 kwh battery and adopts the DC Fast Charging standard.

Mobility

Finally, it seems like automakers and startups are looking at mobility, and not just as a vague concept, but the real idea of moving people around efficiently and cheaply. For example, Hyundai showed us a cool exoskeleton that can help paraplegics walk again. Honda was also showing off its Unicub, a personal mobility device that will help people scoot around easily.

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Tim Raines could become just the fourth player to be elected into the Baseball Hall of Fame in his final year of eligibility on Wednesday

Looks like Bautista is staying in Toronto

MLB

Blue Jays not keen on losing another star after Edwin exit

Jays' Jose Bautista celebrates with fans after the Jays beat the Texas Rangers 7-6 during the ALDS last year. It looks like the slugger will be staying in Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS/FRANK GUNN

The Toronto Blue Jays already lost one of their faces of the franchise this off-season. The team has made sure that Jose Bautista will not follow Edwin Encarnacion's lead.

A person with knowledge of the negotiations tells The Associated Press that the free agent outfielder is staying with the Toronto Blue Jays after agreeing to an $18-million US, one-year contract with mutual options for more years.

The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the team had not announced the deal, said Bautista passed his physical and the contract was finalized Tuesday night.

Neither the team nor Bautista's agent Jay Alou would comment on the reports. Some of Bautista's teammates didn't wait for a formal announcement to celebrate his return.

"Put them hands up! JoeyBats is back!!! JoeyBats19," second baseman Devon Travis tweeted on Tuesday afternoon.

"Told y'all. Lol JoeyBats19," tweeted right-hander Marcus Stroman. Bautista, a six-time all-star, hit 22 homers and had 69 RBIs last year but injuries limited him to just 116 games. He signed a US$65-million, five-year deal in 2011 and the Blue Jays picked up a $14-million team option last season.

Bautista rejected the team's $17.2-million qualifying offer last fall, which ensured Toronto would receive compensation if he signed elsewhere as a free agent. In the end, it appears both sides have circled back in what could be a good deal for all involved.

The veteran outfielder's return would certainly help ease the pain of losing one of the game's top hitters in Encarnacion. The Blue Jays were interested in re-signing Encarnacion, but he eventually signed a three-year deal with the Cleveland Indians.

A return to the Jays would also allow Bautista to show that he's still one of the sport's top players with a chance to maximize the reported deal. The Blue Jays, meanwhile, would fill a need in the outfield, bring back a core member of their offence and potentially reap the benefits of a slugger who is motivated to perform.

$60M

Amount that Bautista's deal could rise to over three years as there are two mutual option years.

The Blue Jays are coming off a second straight appearance in the American League Championship Series but have had a fairly quiet off-season. Toronto signed slugger Kendrys Morales, utility-man Steve Pearce and prospect Lourdes Gurriel Jr., but failing to bring back the popular Encarnacion did not go over well in the Ontario capital.

Bautista, 36, would bring some pop to a lineup that will miss Encarnacion, who hit 42 homers and 127 RBIs last season and was very consistent in recent years. Toronto's corner outfield positions were in desperate need of attention. While Bautista's best defensive days may be behind him, he would provide an adequate presence in right field.

In addition to his power numbers, Bautista's on-base percentage of .366 would also help a batting order that he would co-anchor with Morales, third baseman Josh Donaldson and shortstop Troy Tulowitzki. Bautista had a breakout season in 2010 with 54 homers and 124 RBIs and has been one of the sport's top sluggers ever since.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

DeRozan, Joseph too good for Nets

TUESDAY In Brooklyn

RAPTORS	NETS
119	109

DeMar DeRozan had 36 points and 11 rebounds, Cory Joseph scored a career-high 33 and the Toronto Raptors beat the free-falling Brooklyn Nets 119-109 on Tuesday night.

Toronto won its fourth straight game and extended Brooklyn's losing streak to 11 in a row. The Nets have not won since Dec. 26.

Terrence Ross added 15 points for the Raptors, who opened the game with an 11-0 run but fell behind after the first quarter.

Brook Lopez had 28 points for the Nets. Caris LeVert and Rondae Hollis-Jefferson scored 14 apiece.

Toronto took a 92-85 lead into the fourth quarter and never looked back. DeRozan, who also had six assists, led the way with 10 points in the third period, equalling LeVert's total in the quarter.

Like DeRozan, Jonas Valanciunas also had a good night on the boards with 10 rebounds while Ross and Joseph chipped with four rebounds each.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL LEAFS EDGE SABRES AT ACC Buffalo Sabres goalie Robin Lehner looks back after being scored on by the Toronto Maple Leafs during second period in Toronto on Tuesday. The Leafs went on to win 4-3 on the night with star rookie Auston Matthews netting his 22nd of the season.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

HOCKEY IN BRIEF

Sakic, Koivu and Selanne to enter International HOF

Joe Sakic as well as Finnish stars Saku Koivu and Teemu Selanne are among five former players named Tuesday for induction into the International Ice Hockey Federation Hall of Fame.

The IIHF also announced Tuesday that German defenceman Uwe Krupp and U.S. women's star Angela Ruggiero would enter the hall along with builder Dieter Kalt of Austria. The induction ceremony is on May 21 in Germany. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Struggling NY Islanders fire coach Capuano

Stuck in last place in the Eastern Conference, the New York Islanders fired coach Jack Capuano on Tuesday, ending one of the longest tenures in the NHL.

General manager Garth Snow named assistant GM/coach Doug Weight as Capuano's interim replacement. The Islanders are 17-17-8 and their 42 points are the fewest in the East, leading to Snow making the move.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLS

TFC adds four new faces at SuperDraft

Toronto FC was busy in the final two rounds of Major League Soccer's SuperDraft.

The club added four players, two in each round, as MLS teams concluded the draft by conference call on Tuesday.

Toronto selected Duke goalkeeper Robert Moewes with the eighth pick of the third round. Toronto received the pick from Orlando in a 2015 trade that sent goaltender Joe Bendik to Florida.

Moewes, from Germany, made 17 starts with Duke last season, picking up seven wins and winning the team's MVP award.

TFC added Syracuse defender/midfielder Oyvind Alseth with the 21st pick of the third round. The six-foot Norwegian captained the Orange in his senior year, starting all 20 matches and recording four assists.

Toronto picked up Michigan defender Lars Eckenrode with the 17th pick of the fourth round. That selection was acquired via a 2014 trade with the New York Red Bulls.

Eckenrode made 67 appearances for the Wolverines over his four years at the school.

The Reds finished by selecting Virginia Tech defender Juan Pablo Saavedra with the second-last pick of the draft. He started 22 games last season, recording four assists and leading Virginia Tech in minutes played. CREDIT IN ALL CAPS

Standing tall at Oak Hill

BASKETBALL

Nova Scotia's Wigginton making a name on grand stage

Several decades of basketball greatness can be found at the end of a two-lane, unlit highway that winds unforgivingly through the Blue Ridge Mountains in southern Virginia.

Past the Christmas tree farms, grazing cows and Baptist churches — long after cellphone service has disappeared — you'll find Oak Hill Academy and its storied Turner Gymnasium.

Modest in size but draped in history, the 400-seat gym is where the likes of Kevin Durant, Carmelo Anthony and Jerry Stackhouse once famously dominated their opponents as gifted kids.

It's also the place Nova Scotia teenager Lindell Wigginton has chosen as his launching pad with the goal of becoming the first Maritimer to play in the NBA.

"When I got here, I was kind of shocked. I thought it was going to be a big arena, because Oak Hill is such a big name," Wigginton said. "But I knew it was a powerhouse program and I just wanted to come in, and be the best player I could be."

The six-foot-two guard from Dartmouth is the first Canadian to play for tiny Oak Hill, a Baptist-affiliated co-ed boarding school of some 100 students. Fifty of those kids play on one of the basketball teams.

$35K

A year at Oak Hill costs about $35,000 US, but Wigginton is on a scholarship that covers most of that.

He was the team's top scorer last season, leading the Warriors to a 45-1 record, and a U.S. national high school title. In the championship game at Madison Square Garden, Wigginton converted a three-point play with 29 seconds left in overtime en route to a 62-60 victory over Indiana's La Lumiere.

"He's probably our best player right now," said Oak Hill's legendary head coach Steve Smith. "Lindell is a fierce competitor, you can see how he plays. He's aggressive. He doesn't mind getting hit, when he goes to the basket he wants to get hit, he wants to go to the foul line, he wants three-point plays. But he can shoot from the perimeter too, he shoots pull-ups, he's got the whole game."

Wigginton, 18, manages to maintain top grades in his classes despite a tough travel schedule. They'll play more than 40 games this season, travelling as far as Hawaii and California.

On Monday, the Warriors were in Springfield, Mass., playing in the Spalding HoopHall Classic at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. They dropped an 80-77 decision to Seattle's Nathan Hale High School, just their third loss this season. ESPNU broadcast the game.

"(Wigginton) is playing big-time basketball," Smith said. "At the high school level, you can't get any bigger than this."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lindell Wigginton of Dartmouth, N.S., represented Team USA at Adidas Eurocamp last June in Treviso, Italy.

ROBERTO SERRA/IGUANA PRESS/GETTY IMAGES FOR ADIDAS

NBA

Thumb down for Paul's injury

The streaking Clippers are down another all-star.

Chris Paul will undergo surgery on Wednesday to repair a torn ligament in his left thumb and is expected to miss six to eight weeks.

Paul was injured on a first-half play involving Oklahoma City's Russell Westbrook in Monday night's victory. Paul didn't return in the second half.

Paul is averaging 17.5 points, 9.7 assists and 5.3 rebounds, and leads the NBA with 2.25 steals per game. He missed a total of seven games last month and early this month because of hamstring issues.

The Clippers are 7-0 in 2017, equalling their best start to a calendar year since 1974.

They've done it without star forward Blake Griffin, who is likely to be back next week after recovering from right knee surgery. Griffin was averaging 21.2 points, 8.8 rebounds.

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Sticky Garlic Chicken

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Adults will love the flavourful mix of hoisin sauce (a Chinese bbq sauce), ginger and garlic but it's the honey's sticky deliciousness that will hook the littlest diners.

Ready in 30 minutes
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 15 miutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 1 pound boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch chunks
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- 1 cup panko

For the sauce:
- 1/4 cup reduced sodium soy sauce
- 1/4 cup honey
- 5 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 Tbsp hoisin sauce
- 1 Tbsp freshly grated ginger
- 1 Tbsp rice wine vinegar
- 2 green onions, thinly sliced
- 1 tsp sesame seeds

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Lightly oil or spray a 9×13 baking dish.

2. Sprinkle chicken with salt and pepper. Working in batches, dip into egg, dredge in panko, pressing to coat. Place in baking dish. Bake until golden brown and crisp, about 15-20 minutes.

3. In a medium saucepan over medium heat, combine soy sauce, honey, garlic, hoisin sauce, ginger and vinegar until slightly thickened, about 2-3 minutes. Stir in chicken and gently toss to coat all chicken bites.

4. Serve immediately garnished with green onions and sesame seeds.

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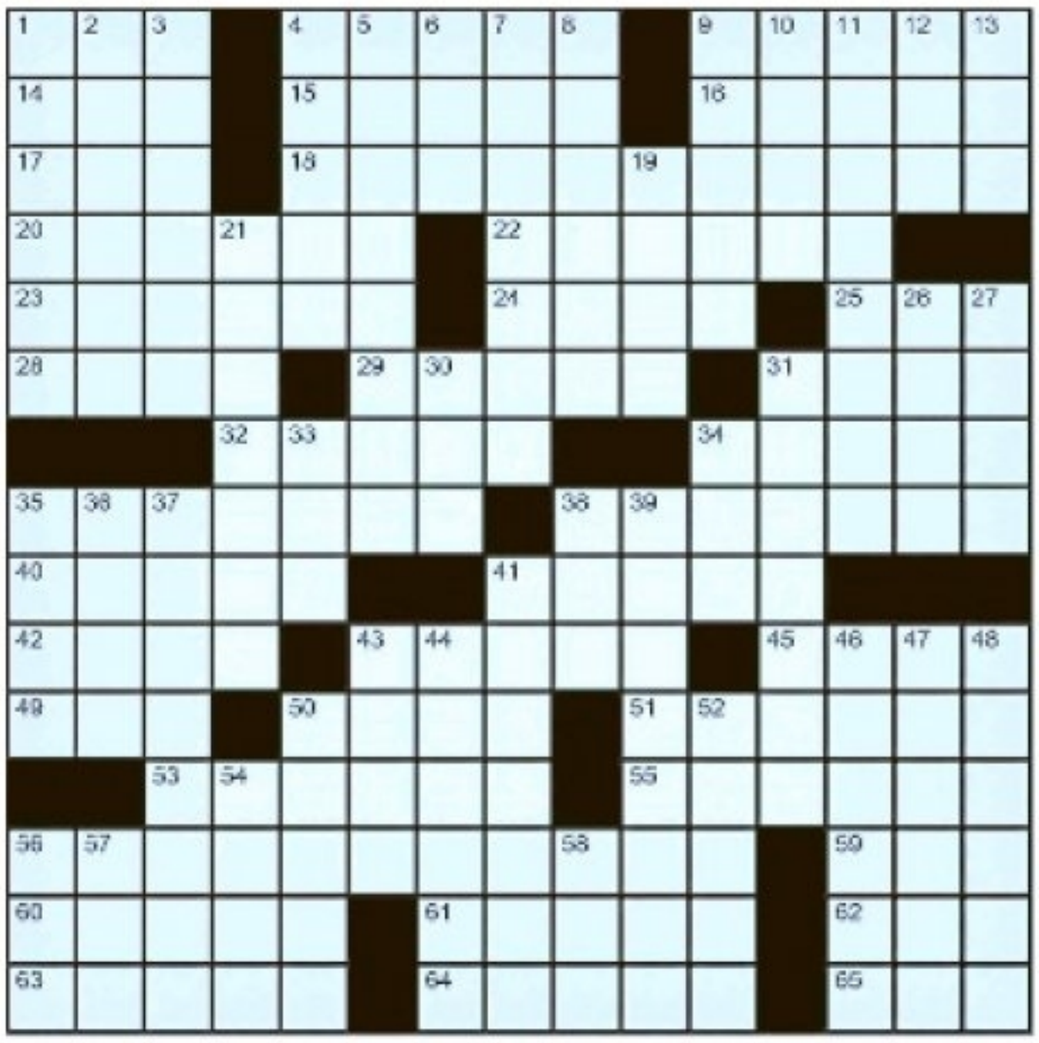

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17. Ant & __ ("Britain's Got Talent" hosts)
18. Plane's undercarriage: 2 wds.
20. Visit a friend for coffee: 2 wds.
22. Disinclined
23. Sir __ Hillary (Everest mountaineer)
24. Eugene of "Best in Show" (2000)
25. Howe'er
28. Achiever
29. Bird of Jove
31. In-a-bowl hot serving
32. __-loading (Athlete's strategy)
34. 'Right' or 'Blue' in the ocean
35. Vivid
38. Dolores O'__ (Cranberries songstress)
40. Certain Celts
41. Prefix to 'dyne' (Toothpaste brand)
42. Stretched out circle
43. Speeds for horses
45. Provo's place
49. Sales pro
50. Like part of a triathlon
51. Ingredient in table salt, Potassium __
53. Not out/Instead in one's domain: 2 wds.
55. One experiencing astonishment
56. Newfoundland community near Gros Morne National Park: 2 wds.
59. Not new
60. Austrian pianist Mr. Schnabel
61. Loosen the laces
62. Mildly-disgusted interjection!
63. Popular tunesmith, Carole __ Sager
64. Type of car
65. Nourished

DOWN
1. Covered, as a tub of margarine
2. Train too hard
3. Get
4. __-__-one
5. Wanders
6. Ms. Jillian
7. 2004 Viggo Mortensen horse flick
8. Whine
9. Steamed
10. Sprockets
11. Arboreal amphibian: 2 wds.
12. Letters on a Bruce Springsteen album
13. Apiece
19. Canadian name from "Scream" (1996)
21. __ Mountains (Range in British Columbia)
26. __-hoop
27. Candid
30. Mr. Vigoda
31. Covers
33. Li'l response
34. Canadian writer Mr. Mitchell, et al. (b.1914 - d.1998)
35. Dr. Frankenstein's helper
36. Place for church pews
37. Canadian band which presumably might enjoy cucumber sandwiches: 2 wds.
38. Soak flax
39. Badge
41. "__ Like You" by Adele
43. Deuces
44. Commotion
46. Lead given by the insider
47. Antarctica penguin
48. Did a Border Collie's job
50. Bake, as eggs
52. Like the main ingredients in granola
54. Unfeigned
56. Apprehend
57. British singer Rita
58. "__ be my pleasure."

✱ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

♈ **Aries** March 21 - April 20
Use all your powers of diplomacy and patience to deal with others today and avoid disputes and arguments. Admittedly, something unexpected will catch you off guard.

♉ **Taurus** April 21 - May 21
This is a classic day for equipment breakdowns or computer crashes at work. Be patient, because this will no doubt be frustrating. Use your Taurus diplomacy.

♊ **Gemini** May 22 - June 21
Parents should be vigilant today, because this is an accident-prone day for your kids. Know where they are at all times. Be extra aware of potential hazards.

♋ **Cancer** June 22 - July 23
Family squabbles might erupt today because something unexpected happens. Small appliances might break down or minor breakages could occur. Have patience!

♌ **Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23
Pay attention to everything you say and do today, because this is an accidentprone day. Make an effort to avoid arguments with others. Your own mental or emotional distraction is the reason an accident might occur.

♍ **Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Something unexpected will affect your cash or possessions today. This could create a problem with a romantic partner or one of your kids.

♎ **Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
It's easy to get into arguments with others today, because someone might do something out of the blue. Don't get your belly in a rash. Stay chill.

♏ **Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Avoid power struggles with others today, because they might arise. This could be because something goes haywire at work. Patience is your best ally.

♐ **Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Financial disputes with a female acquaintance might ruin your day today. Tread carefully. Don't start anything that you can't finish. (Maybe it's best not to start anything!)

♑ **Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Arguments with bosses and parents are likely today. Because sudden detours and surprises catch people off guard, they are easily upset. This is a tough day for a lot of people.

♒ **Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is an accident-prone day for you, so slow down and take it easy. Don't push the river. People feel impatient and sidetracked by the unexpected today. Stay mellow.

♓ **Pisces** Feb. 20 - March 20
Squabbles about shared property and shared expenses might arise today. Ideally, try to postpone these discussions for another day.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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On January 25, let's talk.

On January 25, Bell will donate 5¢ more to mental health initiatives for every:

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Bell Let's Talk

Clara Hughes

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